

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-9 are pending in the application, with claim 1 being the independent claim. The amendments are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Based on the above Amendment and the following Remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Objections to the Drawings

In the Action on page 3, the drawings are objected to as not showing the spherical joint between the back support and the bearing as described in claim 10. Claim 10 is cancelled, rendering the objection moot.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

In the Action on page 2, claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claim 1 is amended to clarify that the back support has freedom of movement. (See, for example, p. 11, lines 18-25 of the present application.) Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 2-9 are allowable as being dependent from an allowable claim.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

In the Action on page 2, claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,550,830 to Lagogue (hereinafter Lagogue). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Claim 1, as amended, recites a device for urging an at least substantially sheet-like advancing blank sideways against an adhesive-dispensing implement, comprising: a back support having a surface arranged to contact one side of an advancing blank while another side of the advancing blank abuts the implement; and at least one bearing mounting said back support, wherein said back support has *freedoms of movement in a plurality of directions relative to the implement*.

Lagogue fails to teach freedoms of movement in a *plurality* of directions relative to the implement. Instead, Lagogue teaches a counter roller 8 having freedom of movement in only one direction: perpendicular to its axis. See col. 2, lines 24-27 of Lagogue. Any movement of the mobile support device 14 about the pivot 32 is constrained in one direction by the mobile stop 26, and movement in the other direction is used to remove the counter roller from the electrode wire 2 to stop the feed of the wire rapidly. See col. 2, lines 64-72 of Lagogue. In contrast, the back support of claim 1 has freedoms of movement in, for example, at least two directions: about a pivot axis, and transversely to the pivot axis. See, for example page 11, lines 18-25 of the present specification. Therefore, Lagogue does not teach freedoms of movement in a *plurality* of

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directions relative to the implement. Consequently, claim 1 is allowable and Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 2-8 are allowable as being dependent from an allowable claim.

Acknowledgement of Allowable Subject Matter

In the Action on page 3, claims 9-10 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form and to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112. Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter. However, because claim 1 is allowable as discussed above, Applicant wishes to defer placing claim 9 in independent form.

Conclusion


All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicant believes that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

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Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 6/10/03



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